FERTILISERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) The drug companies have to pay the amounts overcharged in respect of bulk drugs and formulations, to the Government for deposit into DPEA account. The details of these cases, the total amount still remaining unpaid were given in annexure to the reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 234 answered on 12th March, 1992.

All efforts are being made to effect the recovery as legally permissible, as quickly as possible.

365. *(Transferred to the 5th May,* 1992]

Import of fertilizers without allotting Foreign Exchange

366. SHRI SANTOSH PAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import fertilizers without allotting foreign exchange and whether Government propose to allow private parties to import and trading the same;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) in what manner the Government plan to safeguard the interest of the farmers by this act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) The import of raw maierials (rock phosphate and sulphur) and the intermediates (ammonia and phosphoric acid) has been decanalised under the Export and Import Policy announced by Government recently. The importers of raw materials and intermediates are also required to obtain foreign exchange from the market at market determined exchange rate to finance the import. The import of fertilizers, however, is canalised through Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC) for which official foreign exchange will continue to be available. The increased foreign exchange rate for financing the import of raw materials and intermediates does not affect the farmers as the finished fertilizers still continue to be sold at the controlled rate as notified by Government.

Zintac range of formulations

367. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the price fixed by Government for Zintac range of formulations and what is the fate of the court case on the subject;

(b) what are the prices as which these formulations are being currently sold;

(c) on what basis the company is overcharging the price and what is the price of the bulk drug on which they are basing the prices of their formulations; and

(d) what steps are being taken to ensure that the price of this formulation is not overcharged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d) The brand name 'Zintac' refers to Ranitidine based formulations in tablet form in 150 mg

and 300 mg strength. This brand name belongs to M/s. Glaxo Both these tablets conform to ceiling packs whose prices have been fixed by the Government at Rs. 17·44 and Rs. 33.84 respectively in 10's pack each. These prices are based on bulk drug price of Rs. 4396/- per kg. The company is presently following these prices. The case of overcharging for the past activity is still pending in Delhi High Court.

नई औषधों के पेटेंट कराने में लगने वाला समय

368: **श्री राघवजी :** क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) चिकित्सा विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में आविष्कृत नई औषधियों के पेटेंट कराने में कितना समय लगता है ;

(ख) इस समय को कम करने के लिए अब तक क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं; और

(ग) पिछले वर्ष के दौरान देश के विभिन्न आयुर्विज्ञान शोध संस्थानों में अलग-अलग कितने पेटेंट कराए गए हैं और क्या इनमें वृद्धि करने के लिए कोई उपाए किए गए हैं ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी०जे० कुरियान) : (क) यदि कोई प्रतिकूल स्थिति नहीं है तो औषधियों के क्षेत्र में पेटेंट की मंजूरी के लिए लगभग 3 वर्ष का समय लिया जाता है।

(ख) अन्य क्षेत्रों के लिए पेटेंटों के आवेदन की तुलना में नई औषधियों के लिए पेटेंटों की मंजूरी के आवेदनों की जांच बिना बारी के की जाती है।

(ग) वर्ष 1991 के दौरान औषधियों के क्षेत्र में विदेशी तथा भारतीय वैज्ञानिक संस्थाओं औषधि कंपनियों को 122 पेटेंट मंजूर किए गए थे। इनमें से 85 पेटेंट विदेशी कंपनियों संस्थाओं के नाम पर थे और 37 भारतीय संस्थाओं/भेषज कंपनियों के लिए थे। भारत में चिकित्सा विज्ञान अनुसंधान संस्थाओं द्वारा प्राप्त पेटेंटों के ब्यौरे निम्न प्रकार हैं :—

क्र० सं०	संस्था का नाम	प्राप्त पेटेंटों की संख्या
1.	वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद	18
2.	भेषज विज्ञान विभाग, पंजाब विश्वविद्यालय, चंडीगढ़	1
3.	केन्द्रीय आयुर्वेदिक तथा सिद्ध परिषद	1
	योग :	20

चिकित्सा संस्थाओं द्वारा प्राप्त पेटेंटों की संख्या उनके द्वारा आरंभ किए गए अनुसंधान कार्यकलापों पर निर्भर करती है।

369· [*Transferred to the 8th May, 1992*]

Cost of production of various fertilizers

370. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the cost of production of various fertilizers produced in different units in our country; and

(b) what are the item-wise and unit-wise figures and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) The cost of production of various fertilizers produced in different units in the country differs from unit to unit and even from month to month in the same unit, depending upon the capacity utilisation, energy consumption, cost of inputs, etc· However, the retention price of various fertilizers unit-wise, which is equivalent to normative cost of production inclusive of a reasonable return on net worth, is given in the Statements I & II attached.